

B1
cont'd

43, 45, 47, 49, and 51 and the complement of such nucleotide sequences, and/or (b) SEQ ID NOS: 19, 21, 23, 53, 55, and 57 and the complement of such nucleotide sequences may be used in methods of selecting an isolated polynucleotide that affects the expression of an LPAAT isozyme polypeptide in a host cell. A method of selecting an isolated polynucleotide that affects the level of expression of a polypeptide in a host cell (eukaryotic, such as plant or yeast, prokaryotic such as bacterial, or viral) may comprise the steps of: constructing an isolated polynucleotide of the present invention or an isolated chimeric gene of the present invention; introducing the isolated polynucleotide or the isolated chimeric gene into a host cell; measuring the level a polypeptide in the host cell containing the isolated polynucleotide; and comparing the level of a polypeptide in the host cell containing the isolated polynucleotide with the level of a polypeptide in a host cell that does not contain the isolated polynucleotide.

Paragraph starting at page 8, line 28:

B2

“Codon degeneracy” refers to divergence in the genetic code permitting variation of the nucleotide sequence without affecting the amino acid sequence of an encoded polypeptide. Accordingly, the instant invention relates to any nucleic acid fragment comprising a nucleotide sequence that encodes all or a substantial portion of the amino acid sequences set forth herein. The skilled artisan is well aware of the “codon-bias” exhibited by a specific host cell in usage of nucleotide codons to specify a given amino acid. Therefore, when synthesizing a nucleic acid fragment for improved expression in a host cell, it is desirable to design the nucleic acid fragment such that its frequency of codon usage approaches the frequency of preferred codon usage of the host cell.

In the Claims:

Please cancel claims 1-22.

Please add the following new claims:

B3

- 23. An isolated polynucleotide that encodes a UDP-galactose 4-epimerase polypeptide having a sequence identity of at least 95% based on the Clustal method of alignment when compared to a polypeptide selected from the group consisting of SEQ ID NOS: 2, 4, 6, 8, 10, 12, 14, 16, 18, 20, 22, and 24.
- 24. The polynucleotide of Claim 23 wherein the polynucleotide encodes a polypeptide selected from the group consisting of SEQ ID NOS: 2, 4, 6, 8, 10, 12, 14, 16, 18, 20, 22, and 24.
- 25. An isolated complement of the polynucleotide of Claim 23, wherein (a) the complement and the polynucleotide consist of the same number of nucleotides, and (b) the nucleotide sequences of the complement and the polynucleotide have 100% complementarity.